

THE MARION DAILY MIRROR.

VOLUME XV. NO. 129.

MARION, OHIO, FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 4, 1907.

PRICE TWO CENTS

CULBERSON OF TEXAS DEFENDS THE PRESIDENT

He Holds That the President had a Right to Discharge the Negroes Who Participated in the Brownsville Affair.

Foraker's Resolution is Taken up Again by the Senate but Definite Action is Deferred Until Monday—Senator Lodge Wants to Limit the Scope of the Inquiry—Foraker Takes the Floor and Asks That His Resolution be Adopted but He was Unable to Bring it to an Issue.

Washington, Jan. 4.—President Roosevelt's order, dismissing the negro troops of the 25th Infantry for "shooting up" Brownsville, Texas, was discussed in the senate yesterday when Senator Foraker's resolution providing for an inquiry by the senate into the discharge of the troops was brought up, but action was deferred until next Monday.

Senator Culbertson, of Texas, defended the president's order, bringing to its support many points of legal construction and justifying the action by many quotations from evidence taken in connection with the affair. He closed with an impassioned statement of the position of the South on the negro question, which he declared to be the most vital and dangerous problem before the American people.

Senator Foraker replied briefly, expressing his interest in having speedy action on his resolution for an investigation. Senator Lodge proposed an amendment to the resolution, which has the effect of admitting the president's authority as commander-in-chief of the army to take the action he did, and of restricting the investigation to the occurrence in Brownsville. On motion of Senator Hale, the resolution was given the right of way Monday.

Senator Culbertson said he would have kept quiet, but for the fact that great injustice had been done the people of Brownsville.

Mr. Culbertson said the conduct of the negro soldiers had been very irritating to the Brownsville people and especially so, to the women. He related that on August 4 last, the town before the "shooting up" of the town, a criminal assault had been committed by one of the soldiers on the wife of a reputable citizen and said no arrests had been made for this crime.

Mr. Culbertson defended Captain McDonald of the Texas Rangers to whom Mr. Foraker had referred because of Major Blockson's reference to him as a man who was "so brave that he would not hesitate to charge hell with a bucket of water."

Mr. Culbertson also said that he knew Major Blockson to be a gentleman.

In defending President Roosevelt for his dismissal of the troops, Mr. Culbertson said the fact that the troops were negroes had nothing to do with their discharge. Confusion as to the legal questions involved was, he said, responsible for the statement that the president had no authority to make the discharge.

To establish the motive actuating the negro soldiers in creating the alleged disturbance, Mr. Culbertson read resolutions recently adopted by negro citizens in Boston, which admitted that the soldiers "shot up the town" and said "they were determined to do for themselves what the uniform of their country would not do—protect them from insults and punish at the same time the authors of their misery."

Disclaiming any partisanship for the president, Mr. Culbertson created a wave of merriment by saying:

"I have nothing to do with the president in this matter. I care nothing about him. My personal relations with him are about as general as those of the senator from Ohio" (Mr. Foraker). In all fairness, Mr. Culbertson said, the country ought to know that the report made to the president was reliable. We read much of the evidence in this report to sustain his contention that the soldiers and not civilians had been responsible for the shooting, remarking that senators might go to their luncheon if they did not want to hear it.

After reading much of the testimony taken before the Brownsville grand jury, Mr. Culbertson drew the conclusion that the fact that no indictment was returned was not an evidence of the fairness of the people of Brownsville who did not wish injustice to the innocent. The evidence, he contended, proved beyond a doubt that the shooting was done by the negro soldiers, but failed to identify the guilty ones.

He concluded his speech of an hour and a half by a brief reference to the negro question in general, saying it had existed from the early history of the country down to the present time and still continued to be the most important and the most dangerous question which confronts the American people. Today, he said, the condition of the black race with its ages of slavery, its ignorance and poverty, excited the deepest sympathy of the great body of the white people of the South.

"But," he continued, "in spite of the past, with its conflicts and sacrifices, sorrows and destruction of life and property, this problem is still the greatest with which we have to deal. It involves labor, education, suffrage, social order, civil liberty, self government and the integrity of the white race. The end no man can see."

Senator Foraker at once took the floor, remarking that he belittled the present question to make it a vehicle for discussing the race question. He did not propose to discuss the question of the merits of the Brownsville affair. He wanted his resolution adopted, which would insure further inquiry, and his present purpose was but to defend himself regarding the criticism charged against him for mentioning Captain McDonald.

Commenting on Senator Culbertson's statement that his (Foraker's) speech two weeks ago had offended certain Texans and had reflected particularly upon Captain McDonald, the Ohio senator said he did not know what McDonald resented unless it was the term "gentleman."

Mr. Foraker read from a Cincinnati paper an account of Captain McDonald's resentment, commenting freely as he progressed. Among other things Senator Foraker said:

"I don't know why Captain McDonald would charge hell with one bucket of water unless it was that he had no other use for the water."

Again, after reading the statement of McDonald that he was willing to meet Foraker, but did not intend to make trouble for him, the Ohio senator exclaimed "What a relief that is to me."

Another account from the Houston Post pictured Captain McDonald as a great "man-killer" in the cause of justice and told of the manner in which McDonald had conducted his investigation of the Brownsville affair at the request of the governor of Texas. Mr. Foraker concluded his remarks by putting the interviews in the record and asking for a vote on the resolution.

Senator Culbertson replied briefly, by saying the country was to be felicitated on the fact that the Ohio senator had turned his attention to derision of a captain of the Texas Rangers.

"There is," he said, "one thing I ought to add to what I have said about Captain McDonald, in view of the wish expressed in this chamber a few days ago to meet him, but which has been omitted from The Record. It affords me very great pleasure to say in the same spirit that he never declined an invitation to that character in all his life, and he is too old to change his habits now."

An amendment was offered by Senator Lodge to confine the inquiry by the committee on military affairs to a question of fact in regard to the conduct of the negro soldiers, in that it recognized that the order was issued by the president "in the exercise of his constitutional authority as commander-in-chief."

This would have the effect of preventing an investigation of the constitutional questions involved in the president's order dismissing the troops. Mr. Lodge asked that the further discussion of the question be postponed until Monday on account of his inability to speak because of a sore throat.

Although Mr. Foraker had previously objected to deferring consideration of the resolution, he at once consented to the postponement when Mr. Lodge placed his request upon

personal grounds. Upon motion of Senator Hale, the resolution will be taken up on Monday next and pressed to a conclusion.

The senate adjourned until Monday.

A DUELIST IS KILLED

Two Affairs of Honor are Pulled off in Paris Within Past Twenty-Four Hours

Paris, Jan. 4.—Paris is apparently, fighting mad. Two duels within twenty-four hours, one the most serious fought in France in years, and the affairs of honor have greatly excited the city.

In today's encounter Jean Gangl and Morris Delprat, noted duellists, fought with swords. In the third round Gangl, was wounded in the hand.

Lieutenant Spitzer was the victim of yesterday's eerst pistol duel near Versailles, dying at a private hospital.

NO RELIEF IN SIGHT

A Blizzard in North Dakota Would Mean an Untold Loss of Life.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 4.—Forty stations along the Great Northern railroad, in North Dakota, are on the verge of desperation, owing to the coal and food famine. Despite the efforts made by the railroads to clear up the situation, little relief has been furnished and the outlook for assistance is dark. A blizzard at this time would result in untold loss of life.

So serious is the situation that the interstate commerce commission is considering placing a special agent in the Northwest to see that all possible relief is furnished the residents there.

WHEAT CROP IS IN EXCELLENT CONDITION

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 4.—The January crop report of the state board of agriculture, notes the fine condition of growing wheat. When the recent snow went off, the fields were found well covered, and the wheat in condition to stand the rigor of winter. Twelve per cent. of the corn is yet unharmed and 77 per cent. of last year's crop will be fed on the farms.

WILL SIDE WITH JAPS

London Editor Predicts That England will Line up Against United States.

London, Jan. 4.—In the event of war between the United States and Japan, England will side with Japan, says the conservative Standard in answering, editorially the question asked many times of late. The article says there can not be room for doubt as to England's attitude, even if the measurable advantage of the friendship of the United States weighed against the dishonor of a breaking of a national pledge.

FEARS AN ASSASSIN

Kaiser Wilhelm Surrounds Himself with a Guard as Formidable as That of the Czar.

Birmingham, Jan. 4.—Kaiser William is in deadly fear of assassination and is surrounding himself with a guard as formidable as that which protects Czar Nicholas, according to the Birmingham Post.

The bitterness caused by the present electoral campaign in Germany and the trouble in Poland, where the government has dealt ruthlessly with the Polish nationalists, are responsible for the fears entertained by the German ruler.

KAISER AND CROWN PRINCE

Quarrel Over Colonial Policy and now They Refuse to Recognize Each Other.

Manchester, Jan. 4.—Kaiser William and Crown Prince Frederick William are no longer on speaking terms, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Manchester Dispatch. The trouble followed a serious quarrel over the colonial office exposures.

When revocations of the methods pursued by the colonial office in Africa were made known, the crown prince demanded an inquiry and the punishment of every guilty person. The Kaiser did not agree to this, saying the affair had been

exaggerated. A bitter quarrel followed and the men have not spoken since. The Empress and crown princess have done everything possible to effect a reconciliation, but in vain.

SHORT DAY MORE PAY

Men in all Lines of Railroad Work will Present Demands of Various Companies.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Grand Chiefs Harahan, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, and Englemann, of the conductors, and Garretson, of the switchmen's and trainmen's unions affiliated with the major organizations, met at the Sherman house today, for the purpose of formulating demands to be presented to the railroads of the entire country.

While the participants in the conference declined to give any information, it was learned upon reliable authority that the meeting was called in response to demands of the rank and file, all for the country, from every branch of railroad work, that the demands for an eight-hour day and an increase in wages be presented to the railroads.

VALUABLE WITNESS

Negro Tells Important Facts Concerning "shooting up" of Brownsville by Negroes.

San Antonio, Texas, Jan. 4.—Assistant Attorney General Purdy, who is here making an investigation into the Brownsville rioting by members of the twenty-fifth infantry, has an important witness in Lem Reeves, a negro soldier, on whose testimony he can convict every man, directly connected with the trouble.

The negro has given the names of two soldiers missing from the company when the call to quarters was sounded, just after the outbreak. He also makes damaging statements against Major Penrose and Captain Macklin.

CASSATT'S ESTATE IS ESTIMATED AT \$5,000,000

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 4.—The estate of the late Alexander J. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, is reported valued at \$5,000,000 and is left equally to the widow and three children.

ALLEGES BOOKS SHOW A LARGE SHORTAGE

Secretary of the Dayton Gas Light and Coke Company is Said to be Short Almost a Half Million Dollars—The Secretary Denies He has Ever Appropriated Any of the Company's Funds.

Dayton, O., Jan. 3.—A story to the effect that George M. Smart, secretary of the Dayton Gas Light and Coke company, is short to an amount ranging from \$200,000 to \$500,000, which has been floating about in the form of a rumor for several days, has reached the publicity stage in this city and caused a profound sensation.

Mr. Smart has been connected with the company for 40 years and has been the secretary for 25 years.

The books of the company had never been investigated or audited by an expert, it is said, and the alleged shortage covers, possibly, a third of a century.

The discovery of the alleged shortage followed the employment, recently of a corps of experts to examine and report upon the property. The examination was made with the view, it is stated, of entangling offers to buy made by a syndicate that has been buying gas plants in this and other states. The experts have been at work about three weeks, and have about completed their investigation.

In the meantime and for three or four days past, rumors of an alleged shortage got into guarded circulation. In an attempt to get at the truth of these, as late as Wednesday night, the president, vice presidents and the secretary denied the story and said that there is not 1 cent of shortage.

Robert R. Dickey, now past 90, is president of the company. He is an invalid and practically in his dotage, and it is doubted if he knows anything about the real financial condition of the concern. Harry C.

Graves is vice president and treasurer of the company. He will not admit that there is a shortage.

All that Secretary Smart will say in response to rumors, reports and publications, is that if there are any unaccounted for balances the money went into politics.

Mr. Smart is 57 and is prominent in business and social affairs in the city, and is also prominent in masonry.

It is known that there are factions among the stockholders and in the directory, and the bitterness among these may color the reports that have gained circulation. Thus far, however, no member of the directory will deny or affirm the shortage, and the expert accountants are equally reticent.

The gas company was organized in 1869 and has a perpetual charter. Ninety-five per cent. of the stock is held by about 400 stockholders in this city.

Dayton, O., Jan. 3.—George M. Smart, secretary of the Dayton Gas Light and Coke company, while not yet ready to make a formal statement, says that there is not one iota of truth in the published story of his shortage and that he doesn't owe the company one cent.

It is said that there are two factions in the company, one being anxious to sell to a natural gas company and this faction is authority for the inviolable reports, which are said to be based on nothing more culpable than loose and antiquated bookkeeping.

FLOODS THREATENED

Rivers in Indiana and Illinois Rising Rapidly and Situation is Alarming.

Petersburg, Ind., Jan. 4.—The White and Patoka rivers have left their banks and are flooding thousands of acres of land. Farmers began driving live stock to the hills yesterday. Both rivers are rising rapidly, and much corn in the bottoms, which is still unharvested, will be ruined.

Carmel, Ill., Jan. 4.—The Little Wabash river is rising four feet an hour, and if the rise continues, thousands of dollars worth of damage will be done. A dozen families were moving out East Carmel this morning and by night a large portion of the east side will be under water.

Columbus, O., Jan. 4.—Eighteen families, living on the West Side, were compelled to flee from their homes this morning, on account of the high water in the Olentangy and Scioto rivers. They were mostly squatters and shanty dwellers. No severe losses have been reported. The water in the Scioto river rose to 18.7 feet, but later receded. Much farm debris is passing down stream, fences and corn fodder predominant.

SAYS HE IS INNOCENT

Chicago Fortune Teller Says That it was Emma Who Poisoned Members of Vzal Family.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—The coroner's inquest into the manner of the deaths of the five members of the Vzal family, in connection with Herman Belek, a fortune teller, who has been held in custody for some weeks was continued yesterday.

The chief witness was Mrs. Mary Nieman, a daughter of Martin Vzal and a sister of the girls who are thought by the police to have been

poisoned. Mrs. Nieman declared that her father and her sisters all displayed the same symptoms before they died, and said that previous to the illness they caused their deaths none of them had ever been ill to her knowledge. The symptoms, so described in each case, were such as might have resulted in the taking of poison.

During the evidence of Mrs. Nieman Belek, who is accused of poisoning the members of the family, suddenly rose in his seat and shouted "I did not poison them. Emma poisoned them."

By "Emma" the prisoner meant Mrs. Vzal, the mother of the dead girls, who committed suicide at the time of the arrest of Belek.

Dr. Charles P. Caldwell, the physician who attended Ella Vzal, testified that while he treated his patient for Addison's disease, he now believed that it was a pure case of arsenical poisoning. The symptoms of the disease and of arsenical poisoning, he said, are identical.

BLOCK SYSTEM

Being Investigated by the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Acting under the general resolution, passed by congress, at its last session, providing for an inquiry into the operation block system, the interstate commerce commission began what promises to be a most thorough investigation of the recent wrecks on the Southern and Baltimore and Ohio railroads. It is the purpose of the commission to ascertain, if possible, whether the system is at fault or whether the blame lays wholly with the employees.

Commissioner Clements conducted today's hearing, the wreck at Terra Cotta on the Baltimore and Ohio, Sunday night, being the first subject taken up. Dispatcher Dent, of Baltimore, the first witness, said that under the rules, two trains must not be admitted to a block without special instruction from the dispatcher.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 4.—An explosion at Akron this morning, cut off Cleveland's natural gas supply. Thousands of families who use gas for cooking purposes had cold lunches. The weather is mild and none suffered from the cold.



—Mahony in Washington Star.